

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 11243 191832Z

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 DHA-02 /019 W

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R 191743Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1964

UNCLAS MEXICO 11243

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC, MX

SUBJECT: CASE REVIEW OF ALL AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO:
LANKTON, ELIZABETH E.

REF STATE 194199

1. DENIAL OF CONSULAR ACCESS: PER STARK MATERIAL, LANKTON WAS NOT ALLOWED TO CALL EMBASSY, RELATIVES OR LAWYER AT TIME OF ARREST. POST FILES INDICATE FIRST VISIT TOOK PLACE FIVE DAYS AFTER ARREST IMMEDIATELY AFTER POST NOTIFIED BY CALL FROM SON RESIDING IN U.S. SON LEARNED OF ARREST FROM LANKTON'S CONTACT IN U.S.

2. MISTREATMENT AT TIME OF ARREST: PER STARK FILES, LANKTON WAS KICKED DURING INTERROGATION. THERE IS NO INDICATION IN POST FILES OF ANY ABUSE UNTIL ONE YEAR LATER WHEN POST RECEIVED INQUIRY FROM CONGRESSMAN BOB WILSON. LANKTON INDICATED TO WILSON THAT SHE HAD BEEN KICKED AND THREATENED WITH ABUSE IF SHE DID NOT COOPERATE. NO ACTION APPEARED FEASIBLE AT THAT LATE DATE.

3. FORCED CONFESSION: PER STARK MATERIAL AND POST FILES, FORCED TO SIGN CONFESSION IN SPANISH WITHOUT USE OF INTERPRETER AND UNDER THREAT OF MISTREATMENT. ALLEGATION IN BOTH FIELDS MADE CONSIDERABLY AFTER TIME OF ARREST AND NO RPT NO COMPLAINT OF ABUSE OR FORCED CONFESSION MADE AT TIME OF CONOFF'S FIRST VISIT FIVE DAYS AFTER ARREST.

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4. CONSULAR VISITATION: PER STARK MATERIAL, LANKTON VISITED

ONLY ONCE IN FIRST SIX MONTHS. PER POST FILES, CONOFF
INTERVIEWED LANKTON TWICE IN FIRST TWO MONTHS, NOTE IN
EMBASSY FIEL JULY 12, 1974, STATES SHE REFUSED INTERVIEW
AND THER IS NO INDICATION SHE WAS SEEN AGAIN UNTIL
MARCH 24, 1975. SINCE THEN SHE HAS BEEN SEEN
FAIRLY REGULARLY, MOST RECENTLY ON NOV. 28.

5. PROLONGED DENTENTION: PER POST FILES, IT IS NINETEEN
MONTHS SINCE LANKTON'S ARREST AND SHE HAS NOT YET BEEN
SENTENCED. ON 3/24/75 SHE DCLINED TO HAVE HER NAME
INCLUDED ON THE EMBASSY PROTEST LIST TO THE GOM AS SHE
JUST CHANGED LAWYERS. POST WILL CONTACT LANKTON RE HER
APPROVAL THAT LETTER BE SENT TO JUDGE OF HER DISTRICT
CONCERNING STATUS OF CASE.
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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